

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SUVA

UNCLAS STATE 267950

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ETRD, FJ, TN

SUBJECT: IMPORT REGULATIONS CONCERNING CANNED TUNA

REF: SUVA 1186, 1272

1. CANNED TUNA IS IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THREE DIFFERENT TSUS ITEMS: (A) TSUS 112.30, TUNA, PREPARED OR PRESERVED IN ANY MANNER, NOT IN OIL, IN AIRTIGHT CONTAINERS WEIGHING WITH THEIR CONTENTS NOT OVER 15 POUNDS EACH, FOR AN AGGREGATE QUANTITY ENTERED IN ANY CALENDAR YEAR NOT TO EXCEED 20 PERCENT OF THE UNITED STATES PACK OF CANNED TUNA DURING THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR, AS REPORTED BY THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE--DUTY 6 PERCENT; (B) TSUS 112.34 TUNA, PREPARED OR PRESERVED IN ANY MANNER, NOT IN OIL, IN AIRTIGHT CONTAINERS, OTHER--DUTY 12.5 PERCENT; AND (C) TSUS 112.90 TUNA, PREPARED OR PRESERVED IN ANY MANNER, IN OIL, IN AIRTIGHT CONTAINERS--DUTY 35 PERCENT.

2. NONE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TUNA ITEMS IS ON THE LIST OF PRODUCTS PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT FOR CONSIDERATION
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FOR INCLUSION IN THE UNITED STATES GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF

PREFERENCES.

3. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION ADVISES THAT REGULATIONS FOR IMPORTS ARE IDENTICAL TO THOSE FOR DOMESTICALLY PROCESSED TUNA. THE REGULATIONS ARE FAIRLY LENGTHY AND WILL BE POUCHED SHORTLY, BUT IN GENERAL REQUIRE THAT THE PRODUCT BE CLEAN, SAFE, AND WHOLESOME AND THAT IT BE PROCESSED UNDER SANITARY CONDITIONS. THE LABEL MUST BE HONEST AND INFORMATIVE AND INCLUDE THE NET WEIGHT, NAME OF THE FOOD, AND NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MANUFACTURER, PACKER, OR DISTRIBUTOR. THERE MAY BE NO MORE THAN ONE HALF PART PER MILLION MERCURY IN THE FISH. KISSINGER

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